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Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 26 | Min 18 | Humidity 80% Generally cloudy sky with Light rain Sensex 85,138 | Nifty 26,032 | Gold 1,29,870 | Silver 1,88,000 | Dollar 89.87 | Euro 104.50 | GBP 118.76

CITY / PAGE 5

COLD & DRY

City clocks driest November of the millennium, with just 2.3 mm rain and last few days brought a sharp dip in temperatures

CITY / PAGE 6

GREEN GAPS

Karnataka has built robust green energy framework, but sustaining momentum will require addressing implementation gaps

Footpaths encroached upon, bollards that fail to stop two-wheelers, waste dumped in patches, defunct streetlights, and haphazard flower market operations — just what purpose did redevelopment of Gandhi Bazaar achieve?

MAKEOVER MISTAKES MAR MARKETPLACE

Residents' forum writes to GBA about issues of poor maintenance

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The redevelopment of Gandhi Bazaar in Basavanagudi, carried out by the Directorate of Urban Land Transport (DULT) in collaboration with the former civic body BBMP in 2023, has come under scrutiny as residents and activists raise concerns over pedestrian safety, encroachments, and poor maintenance.

The project, aimed at widening footpaths and making the area more accessible, was intended to benefit all, including persons with disabilities. However, locals claim the execution has been unscientific and fraught with design flaws, leaving the newly laid pathways partially blocked and unsafe for pedestrians. "The footpaths were supposed to ensure smooth movement for everyone, but today, 40% of these spaces are encroached by vendors, and some sections are occupied by food trucks and bikers," said Guruprasad Rotti, Secretary of the Heritage Basavanagudi Residents Welfare Forum.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 >>

> **"The newly installed tiles for differently abled pedestrians are already damaged in places, while poorly installed bollards fail to prevent bike riders from using footpaths**
>
> —Guruprasad Rotti, Heritage Basavanagudi Residents Welfare Forum

Don't press TC pause on education

Child rights activists, parents relieved as circular orders schools to issue transfer certificates within 15 days of receiving application

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Child rights activists and parents have welcomed a circular issued by the Commissioner for School Education asking headmasters and block education officers to take measures to issue Transfer Certificates (TC) within 15 days from the date of receiving the application.

Parents and students have long been troubled by the delays in issuing of TCs by unaided school managements, which has hampered students chances of getting admission in schools of their choice.

The circular issued on November 20 reads, "If the headmasters of private schools and unaided schools failed to issue TC, parents have to approach the block education officer, who has to ensure the school gives the TC within a week."

The Karnataka State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (KSCPCR) had written to the Commissioner about unaided and private schools delaying issuance of TCs on one or other pretext, after which the circular was issued. "If measures are not taken to issue the TC within the deadline fixed by the

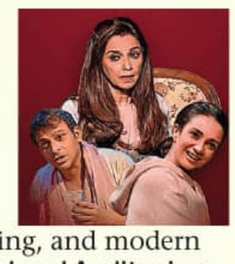
CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 >>

THINGS TO DO

01 Traditional tunes

The Nadathur Foundation is organising the 4th edition of 'Nada Sambhrama', a concert series dedicated to promoting and celebrating the rich tradition of Indian classical music. **Where: Mangala Mandapa Auditorium, Jayanagar; When: December 6, 6.30 pm**

02 Tale of life



As part of the Bengaluru Theatre Festival Season 2, Lillete Dubey, Ira Dubey and Joy Sengupta will be starring in 'Vodka & No Tonic', a witty, layered exploration of love, ageing, and modern relationships. **Where: Good Shepherd Auditorium, Shanthala Nagar; When: December 5, 8 pm**

03 Canvas chronicles

'Beauty Isn't the Point: A Collection of Non-Objective Works', a solo exhibition featuring Chennai-based artist RB Murari's abstract works, focuses on emotional exploration and inner experience through form, color, rhythm, and silence. **Where: Chitrakala Parishath, Seshadripuram; When: December 8 to 14, 10 am onwards**

04 Jam to classics

Re: Sound by Jet ALive featuring Lucky Ali will be taking the audience on a soulful journey, celebrating music that has defined generations. From nostalgic classics to new age soundscape, experience the timeless charm of a musical icon, live on stage. **Where: Phoenix Marketcity, Whitefield; When: Dec 6, 7 pm**

05 Life of a genius

As part of the Bengaluru Theatre Festival Season 2, Naseeruddin Shah will be starring in 'Einstein', a deeply moving portrayal of the genius physicist. **Where: Prestige Centre for Performing Arts, Konanakunte; When: December 6, 7 pm**

'Quick fix' for piles, serious trouble ahead

Rise in number of people seeking piles treatments from quacks has raised concerns; doctors urge patients to seek proper medical help to avoid complications and manage condition effectively

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In recent years, a troubling trend has surfaced across India: small clinics offering fast and inexpensive 'piles treatment', often operated by unqualified practitioners or so-called quacks. But, what appears to be a quick and easy solution can lead to serious complications. Recently, cases of teen deaths due to botched piles surgeries were reported in Telangana. Health experts warn that patients in Karnataka face similar risks, with numerous quacks setting up makeshift clinics and administering unsafe or incorrect treatments.

Piles are a common condition and can be effectively treated with proper medical care. But quack run clinics exploit factors like shame, low awareness, desire for quick fix, and cost sensitivity to lure patients.

Dr Parameshwar CM, Chief Colorectal Surgeon from SMILES Institute of Gastroenterology, said, "Even after 75 years of independence, quackery continues to thrive in our country." He noted that according to a study published in the European Journal of Coloproctology by Dr Praveen J Gupta, there are around 1.5 million quacks in India, with some earning up to Rs 20,000 a day, and a few even becoming billionaires. "We have seen cases where even government assistant engineers, film producers, and CEOs have visited quacks for treatment. There have been instances where trained surgeons themselves suffered severe complications due to quack treatments, such as damaged anal canal muscles leading to loss of stool control," he said.

Dr Parameshwar explained, "Quacks use dangerous and unscientific methods, from applying harsh chemicals, tying bullock horns to the anal canal, to performing bizarre rituals such as inserting copper rings and conducting poojas, claiming the ring will fall off in three months and the patient will be cured." He said that these practices can severely harm patients. "As a result, colorectal cancer, the fastest-growing cancer in India, is often diagnosed very late because quacks fail to detect it early. Currently, only 22 per cent of colorectal cancers are identified at an early stage, and it is crucial that this improves over the next decade," he said.

Out of every 10 patients with piles or related conditions, six initially go to quacks before seeking proper medical care, he added. "The message is clear, people should stop treating these diseases lightly and consult qualified doctors promptly if they experience pain, constipation, bleeding, or pus. Early and professional treatment can prevent severe complications and save lives," he said.

Dr Rajeev Premnath, General and Laparoscopic Surgeon and Endoscopist at Ramakrishna Hospital, highlighted that some quacks even use unsterilised equipment, apply harmful chemicals, or prescribe complicated medications that can worsen the condition. "However, with easier access to information as in google, I'm seeing more patients seeking proper care, including younger individuals whose lifestyle has contributed to piles or fissures," said Dr Premnath. He explained that most patients do not actually need surgery; only those with advanced conditions, like fourth- or fifth-degree piles or chronic fissures or perianal abscess with fistulae require surgical intervention. "In most cases, lifestyle modifications such as eating fiber-rich foods, avoiding prolonged time in the toilet, and managing bowel habits are some of the measures to manage the condition, depending on the case," he said.

Quacks may use unsterilised equipment, apply harmful chemicals, or prescribe complicated medications that can worsen condition or cause serious harm, warns doctor

Dr Bhushan Chittawadagi, Senior Consultant, Surgical Gastroenterologist and Proctologist at TriLife Hospital, said there is a growing number of cases where patients develop serious complications after visiting unauthorised clinics offering quick piles treatments. He said that people tend to opt for these clinics due to low cost, social stigma, or assurance of instant relief. "Unfortunately, these shortcuts frequently delay correct treatment and lead to further complications. Piles is a condition that requires proper diagnosis and treatment. There is hence a need for stronger regulations so that patients seek help only from qualified medical professionals," said Dr Chittawadagi.

Dr Ravichandar receives Bharat Gaurav Award

Under the Viksit Bharat 2047 initiative, Dr R Ravichandar, Managing Director of the Nandana Group, received the Bharat Gaurav Award – Lifetime Achievement 2025. The award recognises his work in public service and the hospitality industry. The ceremony was held in Hyderabad and the award was presented by Padma Bhushan Swami Chinna Jeeyar and Telangana Governor Jishnu Dev Varma. — BMB

Smart route for music academy scholarships

The Karnataka Sahitya and Nrithya Academy has introduced a digital selection process for its scholarship (Shishya Vetan) programme, replacing the traditional district-level talent hunts. Candidates from classical Carnatic and Hindustani music, Bharatanatyam, Kuchipudi, Kathak, Mohiniyattam, Odissi, Sugama Sangeetha, and Katha Keerthan must now record their skills on mobile or video following the academy's curriculum and submit via pen drive or mobile by Dec 20. A specially formed committee will review all submissions and select 100 candidates, each receiving Rs 10,000 as a one-time scholarship, with plans to potentially increase this number in the future. The digital approach streamlines the process, reduces costs, and allows talent from across the state to be considered efficiently.

More details and applications are available at sangeetanrityaacademy.karnataka.gov.in.

— BMB

Late movers face fines, towing at Bengaluru Airport

In a major clampdown on mounting chaos at the arrival gates, Kempegowda International Airport has announced that vehicles lingering beyond the eight-minute free pick-up window will face steep penalties—and even towing—starting December 8. Bengaluru International Airport Ltd (BIAL), the airport operator, revealed that the decision comes amid rising congestion, rampant unauthorised halts and growing safety concerns at the terminal forecourts. The new system aims to introduce stricter discipline and restore order to one of the city's busiest transit points.

According to BIAL, both Terminal 1 and Terminal 2 will implement a segregated lane system designed to curb misuse of the arrival pick-up curb. While private cars will continue to enjoy a free entry, any stop beyond eight minutes will activate charges: Rs 150 for 8–13 minutes, Rs 300 for 13–18 minutes, and after that, vehicles will be towed to the nearest police station with additional fines imposed.

Commercial vehicles—including yellow-board taxis and electric cabs—will not be allowed to wait at the arrival kerb at all. Instead, they must use designated parking zones, where the first 10 minutes of parking will be complimentary. Taxis serving T1 must move to P3 and P4, while those serving T2 should head to P2. Hari Marar, MD and CEO of BIAL, said the surge in passenger traffic, especially during the travel season, has made such measures unavoidable. "This isn't mere enforcement. It's about safeguarding travellers, improving flow and ensuring a trustworthy, orderly system," he said, urging cooperation from both passengers and cab operators. Airport authorities noted a growing trend of cars loitering near arrival gates, stopping on ramps, or waiting along the roadside—behaviours that have caused unnecessary bottlenecks and increased the risk of accidents.

To maintain smooth operations, passengers have been advised to use only authorised pick-up points and registered cab services such as Airport Taxi, Uber, Ola, OHM electric cabs, Quick Ride and WTI. Any instance of lane blocking, unauthorised halting or overstaying the permitted window will invite penalties for both private motorists and commercial operators. — BMB

Custodial torture alleged, probe urged in man's death

A fact-finding team from the People's Union for Civil Liberties (PUCL) has alleged that 28-year-old Darshan Singamalai died due to severe custodial torture inflicted by personnel of the Vivekanagar Police Station. The rights group has demanded a judicial inquiry, immediate action against the officers involved, and protection for the victim's family, who belong to a Scheduled Caste community.

According to PUCL, Darshan was picked up around 1.30 am on November 12, 2025, by two policemen who accused him of brandishing a knife at food-delivery workers. When his mother, Adilakshmi, and brother questioned the officers, they were allegedly dismissed, told Darshan was a "rowdy," and prevented from intervening as he was taken away.

The PUCL report states that Darshan was unlawfully detained for four days and subjected to brutal assault inside the Viveknagar Police Station, where he was allegedly beaten

with lathis and pipes. Despite multiple visits by his mother on November 13, police reportedly refused to release him.

On November 16, police personnel allegedly pressured the family to send Darshan to a private rehabilitation centre in Adakamaranahalli, claiming he required treatment for alcohol addiction. Staff at the centre told the family that Darshan could barely walk and had been instructed by police to say he "fell from a bike."

Darshan remained at the facility for more than a week. On November 26, the family was informed that he had developed breathing difficulties and had died. At the Nelamangala Government Hospital, doctors allegedly showed the family multiple injuries, on his chest, back, limbs, and feet, consistent with custodial assault.

The Madanayakanahalli police registered an Unnatural Death Report (UDR) and sent the body for post-mortem to Victoria Hospital, where doctors reportedly noted visible injuries.

PUCL further alleges that after the death, 8–12 police personnel threatened Darshan's wife, Ashwini, attempting to intimidate her into withdrawing the complaint.

The PUCL and the Association of Prisoners' Families for Justice (APFJ) have called on the Karnataka government to provide immediate protection to Darshan's widow, Ashwini, and other family members, arrest and suspend the Vivekanagar police personnel involved, invoke provisions of the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, and order a judicial inquiry monitored by the CID. **–BMB**

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CRIME FILES

Probe on for hoax bomb threat

The city police on Sunday received an email threatening a series of bomb blasts at Kempegowda International Airport and several major shopping malls, a message which, after verification and security checks, was declared a hoax.

An FIR has been registered against the unidentified sender under Section 66(F) of the IT Act, which deals with cyber-terrorism.

According to the complaint, the threatening email landed in the police commissioner's official inbox at 11.53 am on November 30, and claimed to be a warning from the so-called 'Jaish-e-Mohammed White Collar Terror Team'.

The message threatened blasts at KIA, Orion Mall, Lulu Mall, Forum South, and Mantri Square from 7 pm onwards. The sender also listed a mobile number, demanding that authorities "call if you want to pay and not let this happen."

Following protocol, police teams conducted SOP checks at all locations before confirming that the threat was fake.

Investigators believe the mail may have been sent to create mischief or to deliberately implicate someone. Efforts are now underway to trace the sender using the IP address and other digital footprints. **–BMB**

Live -in couple found dead at home

A 51-year-old private firm employee allegedly killed his live-in partner before taking his own life at their rented home in Indira Priyadarshini Nagar under Rajagopalanagar police limits on Tuesday.

The accused, Lakshminarayana, had been separated from his wife and was living with Lalitha (49), a rubber factory worker. Lalitha, whose husband died 15 years ago, is survived by her 25-year-old daughter. The couple had reportedly been in a relationship for nearly a decade. The incident came to light when a neighbour found Lakshminarayana hanging from the ceiling fan and Lalitha lying unresponsive on the floor.

He immediately alerted Rajagopalanagar police. After killing his wife, Lakshminarayana is suspected to have ended his life. Investigators are still probing what may have triggered the fatal confrontation. **–BMB**

Man found dead in autorickshaw

A 29-year-old scrap dealer was found dead under mysterious circumstances near Gajanana Nagar in Hegganahalli on Monday, triggering a clash of versions between his family and that of a woman he was visiting.

The deceased, Abdul Hussein, ran a scrap godown at Chaitan Circle in Byadarahalli. According to police, he had gone to meet a woman who lived nearby. Hours later, the woman's father reportedly called Abdul's brother, claiming that Abdul had died by suicide and asked the family to come to Gajanana Nagar. When Abdul's relatives reached, they were shocked to find his body placed inside an autorickshaw and the woman's family allegedly fleeing from the location. The family immediately alerted Kamakshipalya police. Police officials said that, prima facie, it appears to be a suicide but added that they are collecting more evidence before conclusions. **–BMB**

Traffic cop's body found in lake

A 50-year-old traffic head constable attached to the Channapatna Traffic Police Station died after he reportedly fell into Shettihalli Lake on Monday evening.

The deceased, Lakshman, was returning home from duty on his two-wheeler when the incident occurred. Police believe he may have been riding along the lakebed, when he lost control of his vehicle and slipped into the water, where he drowned.

When Lakshman failed to return home late at night, his family tried calling him, but his phone was switched off.

On Tuesday morning, passers-by alerted authorities after spotting a two-wheeler lying on the lakebed and soon after, the body, still wearing a helmet, floating nearby.

A case of unnatural death was registered. Investigators are trying to determine whether the incident was purely accidental or if there was any foul play involved. **–BMB**

Police nab out-of-state phone thief

The Kengeri police have arrested an out-of-state man involved in multiple mobile phone thefts across the city. A total of 12 stolen phones worth Rs 1.50 lakh have been recovered from him.

According to police, a complaint was filed on November 25 by a resident of Doddakammanahalli. The victim stated that his mobile phone was stolen while boarding a bus at the Kengeri Satellite Bus Stand after completing his work in Suncity, Kengeri. Based on the complaint, a case was registered at Kengeri Police Station.

Acting swiftly, police gathered evidence and eyewitness statements. Within three hours, the suspect was traced and detained near the same bus stand. During interrogation, he confessed to stealing the phone and admitted involvement in several similar thefts at bus stands and crowded places in Bengaluru.

Further investigation led police to the accused's rented room in Byadarahalli, Magadi Road, where 12 stolen phones were recovered on November 28.

The accused was initially remanded to four days of police custody and later sent to judicial custody on November 29. Police are now working to trace the owners of the remaining recovered phones. The investigation is ongoing. **–BMB**

Two arrested for selling fake cigarettes

The Malleswaram police have arrested two individuals for illegally selling counterfeit cigarettes disguised as a reputed brand. Officers seized 80 bundles of fake cigarettes valued at Rs 2.5 lakh from their possession.

The case came to light when a representative of the affected company lodged a complaint on November 25, 2025, alleging that fake ITC-branded cigarettes were being distributed around 10th Cross and Sampige Road in Malleswaram.

Acting on credible information, officers traced the accused, identified as Imran (36) and Rahees (40), and apprehended them near 10th Cross on the same day. Police are now investigating the source of the counterfeit supply chain. Further action is underway to identify others involved in the illegal distribution network. **–BMB**

Bike thief arrested, six stolen two-wheelers worth ₹3 lakh recovered

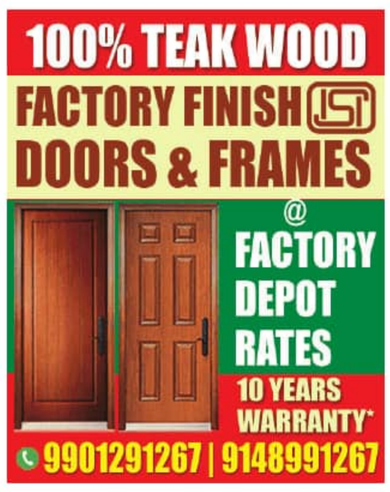
The Konanakunte police have arrested a man accused of stealing multiple two-wheelers in the city. Six stolen motorbikes worth Rs 3 lakh have been recovered following his arrest.

The case came to light after a resident of Hunessedoddi village in Ramanagara filed a complaint on November 28. The complainant reported that his bike, parked outside a relative's residence in Chunchaghatta, JP Nagar 7th Phase, on November 26, went missing the following morning. A vehicle theft case was registered at Konanakunte Police Station.

Acting on the complaint, police examined evidence and gathered statements from witnesses. On November 29, they detained a suspect near the Harinagar bus stand. During interrogation, the accused confessed to the theft and also admitted involvement in another bike theft under the Chandra Layout Police Station limits.

Based on his information, police located six stolen two-wheelers abandoned in an empty lot near the Glass Factory Junction in Harinagar.

With this arrest, four theft cases under Konanakunte limits and two under Chandra Layout Police Station have been solved. The accused was produced before court on November 29 and has been remanded to judicial custody. The investigation is ongoing. **–BMB**



Survey reveals 1,042 stray dogs in Bengaluru north campuses

Authorities respond to Supreme Court order, tracking strays, setting shelters, and appointing nodal officers to manage dogs efficiently across city campuses

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Nearly 802 institutions reported stray dog numbers. Corporation identifies feeding spots, runs two ABC centres, deploys veterinarians and catchers, and uses WVS app to sterilise and vaccinate dogs across Bengaluru North

In response to notices sent by Bengaluru North City Corporation nearly a week ago, 802 government and private institutions within the corporation's limits have replied, stating that there are 1,042 stray dogs on their campuses.

This follows the Corporation reaching 1,074 campuses on November 26, seeking detailed information on stray dogs present on their premises, in line with a recent Supreme Court order.

"Many institutions have not yet responded to our notice. We are following up, and a few more days will likely be provided to them for a response," said Pommala Sunil Kumar, Commissioner, Bengaluru North City Corporation.

Kumar further stated that the identification of shelters for dogs removed from campuses has not materialised yet. However, a recent instruction by the Animal Welfare Board of India noted that if the campus area of institutions, private or public, exceeds six acres, shelters should be created on the respective campuses. "It is a complex process, and we are taking every step carefully, in accordance with the Supreme Court's order," added Kumar.

The Corporation has also appointed ward-wise nodal officers to implement the Supreme Court's order and carry out the Animal Birth Control (ABC) programme. Additionally, 48 feeding spots have been identified and designated with the help of signboards.

"Within the jurisdiction of the North Municipal Corporation, 48 locations have been identified for feeding stray dogs, and feeding at any place other than these identified locations is prohibited. These locations have been determined after consulting local residents. While this is the number for the time being, more feeding spots can be created following the same process," said Kumar.

The Corporation currently has two ABC centres for impounding the dogs, five vehicles to catch and transport the animals, three veterinarians to ensure the upkeep of the dogs, along with 17 dog catchers.

A review meeting was held on December 2 (Tuesday), to assess the progress of the ABC and Anti-Rabies Vaccination (ARV) programmes, and to ensure strict compliance with the Supreme Court's directives on street dog management.

During the meeting, Kumar also stated that details and locations of all stray dogs within the city corporation limits will be recorded through the WVS app. He directed officials to use the app to identify the locations of stray dogs while conducting sterilisation surgeries and vaccination programmes.

HBR fencing nightmare fuels resident anger

Residents of 5th Block accuse stormwater engineers of poor fencing along drains, citing safety hazards and contractor delays

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Residents of the 5th Block of HBR Layout have expressed concern over the substandard fencing along the stormwater drain. With the authorities taking refuge under the transition from the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) to the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA), residents—particularly senior citizens—on 19th A Main and 30th A Cross of 5th Block have been running from pillar to post seeking a solution to the poor-quality work.

They complain that stormwater drain (SWD) engineers undertook the fencing work along the drain, but the quality is far from satisfactory. "We have been appealing to the SWD engineers and HBR ward engineers to fix this problem. The ground surface was not levelled. The fence posts were not properly fixed.

We have to clear weeds on the land between the fence and the stormwater drain wall. It has become difficult for us to get the authorities concerned to take action," said A Pichandi, a resident of 5th Block, HBR Layout.

Left: Sub-standard concrete work at 5th Block of HBR Layout; Above: Weeds on the space between the fence and SWD wall at 5th Block of HBR Layout

Demanding that the authorities ensure proper fencing, Srikant M Ramachar, a resident, said that snakes have become not only a nuisance but also a danger to residents. "The space, overgrown with weeds, between the fence and stormwater drain has become a haven for snakes. The contractor did not fill the gaps while concreting. Two snakes entered my home a few days ago. I appeal to the authorities to address this issue as soon as possible," he added.

Meanwhile, SWD Assistant Executive Engineer Thimmaraju said the contractor has halted work for the last 15 days. "The contractor has not completed the work. We now have to hand over the fencing work to the ward engineer," said the assistant executive engineer.

However, HBR Ward Assistant Engineer Om Prakash stated that it is the responsibility of the stormwater drains department to ensure the contractor completes the work. "We cannot take over incomplete work," he said. Will the engineers continue shifting blame or finally resolve the problem? The hapless residents can only wait and watch.

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Garbage cleared

Yelahanka

Garbage in Yelahanka cleared following coverage by Bangalore Mirror.

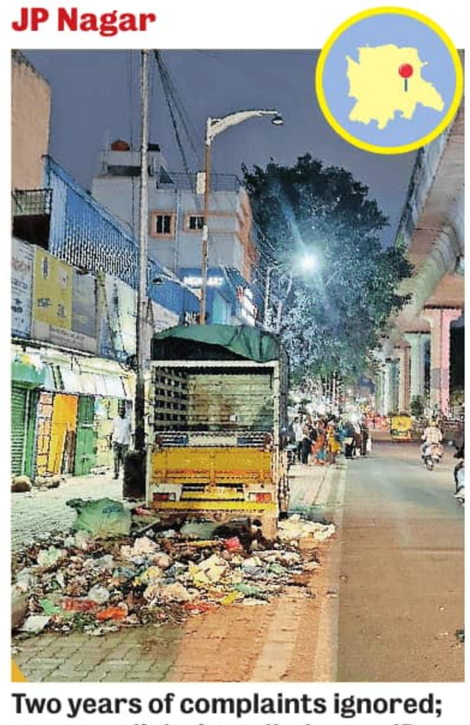
Dispenser fault

Yeshwanthpur

The water dispenser at TTMC remains out of service.

Streetlight missing

JP Nagar



Two years of complaints ignored; no streetlight installed near JP Nagar Metro, Pillar 61.

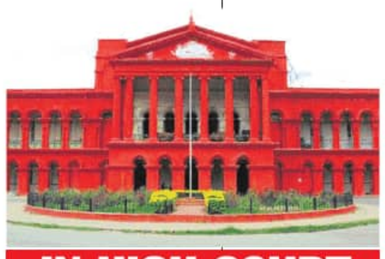
Energy Minister cleared over meter procurement allegations

The Karnataka High Court on Tuesday set aside a private complaint filed by BJP leaders against State Energy Minister KJ George and BESCOM officials, which alleged irregularities in the tender process for procuring and installing smart electricity meters across the State.

Justice M I Arun, allowing petitions filed by George and others, stated, "Petitions are allowed. Consequently, the proceedings pending before the trial court are quashed." A detailed order has yet to be released.

The petitions challenged a private complaint dated July 17, 2025, invoking sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, and the Prevention of Corruption Act. The petitioners also questioned a trial court order directing the Lokayukta Superintendent of Police to submit a report.

Senior Advocate CV Nagesh, representing George and others, argued that public servants, including a serving minister, are entitled to statutory protection before prosecution. He said the trial court lacked jurisdiction, stating, "A report from the officer superior in rank is required; directing the Lokayukta police to submit a report is not permissible."



IN HIGH COURT

Opposing the petitions, Senior Advocate Lakshmy Iyengar, representing complainants Dr CN Ashwathnarayan and others, said the Magistrate was within his powers and Sections 175(3) and 175(4) operate in parallel. She added that the trial court had merely sought clarity on steps taken by the Lokayukta regarding the original complaint.

The private complaint had been filed by three BJP MLAs—CN Ashwathnarayan, SR Vishwanath, and Dheeraj Muniraj—after initially approaching the Lokayukta in April over alleged irregularities.

–BMB

No new recruitment under enhanced quotas now

The Karnataka High Court has directed the State government not to issue any fresh recruitment notifications applying the enhanced reservation for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) under the Karnataka SC/ST Reservation Act, 2022. The interim order poses a setback for the government, which had planned to move ahead with appointments based on the revised quota structure.

A Division Bench passed the directive while hearing a batch of petitions challenging the constitutional validity of the 2022 law. The Act had increased reservation for SCs from 15% to 17% and for STs from 3% to 7%. Petitioners contend that the expansion breaches the Supreme Court–mandated 50% cap on total reservation and was introduced without mandatory consultation with the National Commissions for SCs and STs, as required by constitutional provisions.

While restraining the State from issuing new recruitment notifications under the enhanced quota, the Bench permitted recruitment processes already notified before November 19, 2025, to continue. However, it emphasised that any appointments made through these ongoing selections must clearly state that they are subject to the final outcome of the proceedings.

The judges further clarified that the interim direction will not nullify or override any specific interim or final orders already passed by the High Court or tribunals regarding recruitment notifications issued before the cut-off date.

The petitions will continue to be heard as the challenge to the validity of the 2022 reservation law moves forward. –BMB

City shivers as temperatures dip sharply this weekend

Early-winter chills hit Bengaluru with lower-than-average highs, bringing noticeable temperature drops and prompting adjustments in clothing and lifestyle

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Bengaluru recently saw temperatures drop below normal 27°C daytime average

Bengaluru has ended one of its driest Novembers of the millennium, with the IMD city station recording only 2.3 mm of rainfall, far below the long-term average of 49 mm. Weather trackers noted that only 2016, at 1.5 mm, was drier, placing this year firmly as the second-lowest November since 2000. According to an update from Namma Karnataka Weather on X, the rain deficit was uniform across the city: Anekal (21 mm), Attibele (26 mm), Jigani (15 mm), Sarjapura (24 mm), Yeshwantpur (7 mm), Gottigere (5 mm), Kengeri (2 mm), Marathahalli (6 mm), Mahadevapura (5 mm), Yelahanka (13 mm) and Varthur (12 mm). None of these localities came close to the historical monthly average. With the Northeast Monsoon remaining weak over large parts of Tamil Nadu and South Interior Andhra Pradesh, Bengaluru too slipped into a sharp rainfall shortfall. Yet, despite the dry spell, IMD's annual tally for the city stands at 104 cm, close to the normal of 107 cm for the year.

Cold spell

In recent days, Bengaluru also experienced a notable dip in temperatures, with maximums falling well below the usual 27°C daytime average. After Thursday's 25.2°C and Friday's 25.3°C, the chill deepened over the weekend, dropping to 21.6°C on Saturday and 20.2°C on Sunday. Experts indicate that Bengaluru is likely to hover between 24°C and 26°C during the day through the week, while night temperatures may settle around 16°C to 18°C, slightly above seasonal norms.

IMD insight

Bengaluru's December weather over the past decade has swung between warm afternoons, mild nights and patchy rainfall. Day temperatures often approach 30°C—2018 even set a December record at 31.4°C—while nights have steadily warmed, rarely falling below 14°C, far from the historic 8.9°C recorded in 1883. Rainfall has been irregular too: years such as 2013, 2014, 2015, 2021 and 2023 saw minimal showers, while sudden bursts marked other years, including 60.8 mm in a single day in 2016 or 39.7 mm this year. Those spells pushed 2024 into one of the wetter Decembers of the decade at 95.9 mm. Yet the city still hasn't matched the towering benchmark set in 1969, when 68 mm fell in 24 hours and the month totaled 119.2 mm.

Day temperatures often approach 30°C—2018 even set a December record at 31.4°C—while nights have steadily warmed, rarely falling below 14°C, far from the historic 8.9°C recorded in 1883

Climatic context

Broader data from 1991–2020 shows Bengaluru remains one of India's most stable-weather metros, with an annual mean maximum of 29.8°C and mean minimum of 19.4°C. The warmest stretch runs from March to May, peaking in April at 34.1°C, while the coolest months—December and January—see night temperatures near 16°C. Rainfall is concentrated around the monsoons, with an annual average of 1077.6 mm, mainly in September, October and August. Thunderstorms remain frequent, averaging 46.4 days annually. For residents, the trend is clear: warmer Decembers, sharper rain contrasts, and a more pronounced early-winter chill.

RTO posts exposed in penalty scam

The Transport Department is facing a major scandal after a large-scale fake challan racket was exposed. Following the recent 50% penalty waiver, some brake inspectors allegedly exploited the scheme by generating counterfeit challans and diverting money meant for the government and vehicle owners. The fraud, which occurred between 2023 and 2025, mainly targeted out-of-state commercial vehicles from Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Maharashtra, Goa, and others moving through Karnataka's checkpoints.

Inspectors reportedly created false penalty entries using the names of senior RTO officials and submitted them to transport companies, pocketing the fines themselves. The scam surfaced across nine checkpoints, including Hoskote, Bagelpalli, Mulbagilu, Attibele, Chitradurga, Zalaki, Koppal, Nelamangala, and Nippani.

Authorities are preparing to file criminal cases based on company complaints, while senior officials are urging a CBI or CID probe. The incident has severely tarnished the department's credibility, underscoring the need for stronger oversight and accountability. –BMB

More trains to ease Yellow Line rush

Bengaluru's Yellow Line is set for a major service upgrade as additional train sets are introduced to the corridor. At present, five trains operate with a 15-minute frequency, but this will improve by the end of January, when eight trains begin service, reducing intervals to 10 minutes.

This enhancement will offer commuters traveling between RV Road and Delta Electronics City faster, more reliable, and more frequent connectivity.

The sixth six-coach train for the Yellow Line was dispatched in the third week of November by Titagarh Rail Systems and will be integrated at the Hebbagodi depot. More trains are scheduled to arrive from the Titagarh plant in December and January, ensuring smoother operations and significantly cutting commuter waiting times. –BMB

Eco-friendly Karnataka struggles to sustain momentum

State tops energy index with certified green buildings and retrofitted schools, yet gaps in industry adoption and small-scale projects could slow future progress

Sridhar.Vivan
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TWEETS @sridharvMIRROR

PIC FOR REPRESENTATION ONLY

Karnataka's green transformation: LED streetlights, solar panels, and retrofitted schools lead the state's push for energy efficiency—yet gaps in industry adoption remain

Karnataka retains its leadership in the recently released State Energy Efficiency Index 2024, topping Group 1 in the Building Sector despite a 4.7% score decline, highlighting both its strengths and emerging challenges. With 1,013 certified green buildings and 39 star-rated installations, the state demonstrates high adoption of energy-efficiency measures. However, the decline indicates that while Karnataka has built a robust framework, sustaining momentum will require addressing implementation gaps, particularly in new Energy Conservation Building Code (ECBC)-compliant constructions and smaller-scale residential developments that may lag behind policy targets.

Public sector

The state's retrofitting of 52 government schools yielded 222,676 kWh in annual energy savings and cut 158 tonnes of CO emissions, highlighting tangible results of policy translated into action. Initiatives such as clean-cooking projects and energy-efficient appliances in hospitals and college hostels show that Karnataka is aligning infrastructure upgrades with energy-efficiency objectives. Analytically, these projects reflect a high return on investment: modest expenditure yields measurable energy reductions, proving that targeted retrofits in government buildings are cost-effective and replicable, according to the report.

Residential impact

Karnataka's Model Village Campaign in Dhundasi, Haveri district, distributed LED bulbs, BLDC fans, and LED streetlights, achieving 258,101 kWh of annual savings and cutting 211,643 tonnes of CO on a 74.14 lakh budget. This illustrates that grassroots interventions, when integrated with behavioural-change campaigns, can generate outsized impacts. Yet, analytical review suggests that scaling such initiatives across all districts will be essential to maintain the state's top position in the building sector, particularly as other states are aggressively expanding green-building adoption.

Despite policy measures such as the Energy Conservation & Energy Efficiency Policy 2022–27 for MSMEs, Karnataka's industry score dropped 2.7%, underscoring a disconnect between policy frameworks and actual uptake. Industrial clusters, especially in Tier-2 and Tier-3 hubs, remain slow to adopt energy-efficiency practices. Analysis indicates that without stronger financial incentives, audit enforcement, and capacity-building for small and medium enterprises, the state risks falling behind its own building-sector achievements, according to the report.

Karnataka's adoption of clean-cooking solutions in government hospitals, college canteens, and hostels demonstrates forward-looking integration of energy-efficient technologies in public-service operations. Yet, the limited scale of deployment highlights that while flagship projects are effective, systemic rollout across sectors is still needed to create measurable statewide reductions in energy consumption and carbon emissions.

With 1,013 green buildings, retrofitted schools, and clean-cooking initiatives, Karnataka leads the building sector, yet gaps in ECBC compliance and MSME adoption threaten sustained energy efficiency progress

New rota ends route bias

BMTC is set to implement a duty rota system for bus drivers, allowing them to choose preferred routes through a transparent counselling process. The move aims to eliminate allegations of bias in route allocation and ensure fairness in assigning duties. Seniority lists and existing two-day duty rota blocks will be displayed, and counselling sessions will be held from December 9 to 18, to finalise route assignments. The new system and route allocations will come into effect on January 1, 2026, the corporation has announced. **–BMB**

QR codes transform property stamps

Karnataka has introduced a digital e-stamp system with QR codes to prevent counterfeit stamps and make the process easier for citizens, particularly for property and rental agreements. The new system allows users to register on the Kaveri website, verify their identity via Aadhaar, and purchase e-stamps online without intermediaries. Each digital e-stamp carries a unique serial number, QR code, and digital watermark, ensuring authenticity and traceability. The service is available through 15,000 centres across the state, including Gram One, Bangalore One, Bapuji Service Centres and district offices. After purchase, users can generate documents, make online stamp fee payments, and complete Aadhaar-based e-signatures for secure, legally valid transactions. The rollout will gradually replace the existing e-stamp system while ensuring transparency and reducing misuse. **–BMB**

Karnataka soars in FDI rankings

Karnataka has emerged as the second-highest recipient of foreign direct investment (FDI) in India for the first half of 2025–26 (April–September), attracting ₹84,200 crore, just behind Maharashtra, which received ₹95,000 crore. Other top states include Tamil Nadu (₹32,000 crore), Haryana (₹28,800 crore), Delhi (₹20,600 crore), Gujarat (₹20,000 crore) and Telangana (₹10,000 crore). Overall, FDI inflows into India rose by 18% to reach ₹2.95 lakh crore, up from ₹2.66 lakh crore in the same period last year. Investments from the US doubled to ₹59,000 crore, while Singapore remained the largest single investor with ₹1 lakh crore. The figures highlight Karnataka's growing appeal as a key investment destination in the country. **–BMB**

Siddaramaiah–Shivakumar crush chatter, flaunt brotherly bond over breakfast

After a 90-minute Breakfast 2.0 huddle, Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar project cohesion, defer leadership calls to Rahul Gandhi, and outline Congress strategy for the upcoming Winter Session

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The Breakfast 2.0 meeting held on Tuesday between Deputy Chief Minister and Karnataka Congress President DK Shivakumar and Chief Minister Siddaramaiah at the former's residence wrapped up after nearly 90 minutes, with both leaders firmly projecting unity. They reiterated that any decision on the leadership question lies entirely with Congress MP Rahul Gandhi and the party high command. Speaking to reporters alongside Shivakumar, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah described their bond as fraternal, stressing that they stand together and will continue to work in tandem for the party. When asked when Shivakumar might step into the Chief Minister's role, Siddaramaiah responded that such a call rests solely with the central leadership.

The two leaders used the meeting to discuss key political and legislative priorities. With the Winter Session set to begin on December 8, for two weeks, they reviewed their strategy for the Assembly. Siddaramaiah noted that the BJP is preparing to move a no-confidence motion, among other issues, and said the Congress is ready to counter it forcefully. They also reviewed discussions held by BJP–JD(S) leaders, including Union Minister HD Kumaraswamy and Leader of the Opposition R Ashoka.

Karnataka Congress leaders Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar plot strategy over breakfast

On questions about leadership, Siddaramaiah emphasised that nothing has changed since their previous discussions. "Whatever decision Rahul Gandhi and the high command take, we will follow. Our unity is not limited to breakfast meetings — we have always been united," he said.

He said he is ready to meet central leaders once appointed and will be meeting AICC General Secretary KC Venugopal in Mangaluru on Wednesday. Siddaramaiah also mentioned that a Congress Legislature Party meeting would soon be convened, where party MLAs would dine together. Reaffirming their camaraderie, he said, "Shivakumar and I are like brothers. We stand by one party, one ideology, and we will work together as we prepare for the 2028 Assembly elections."

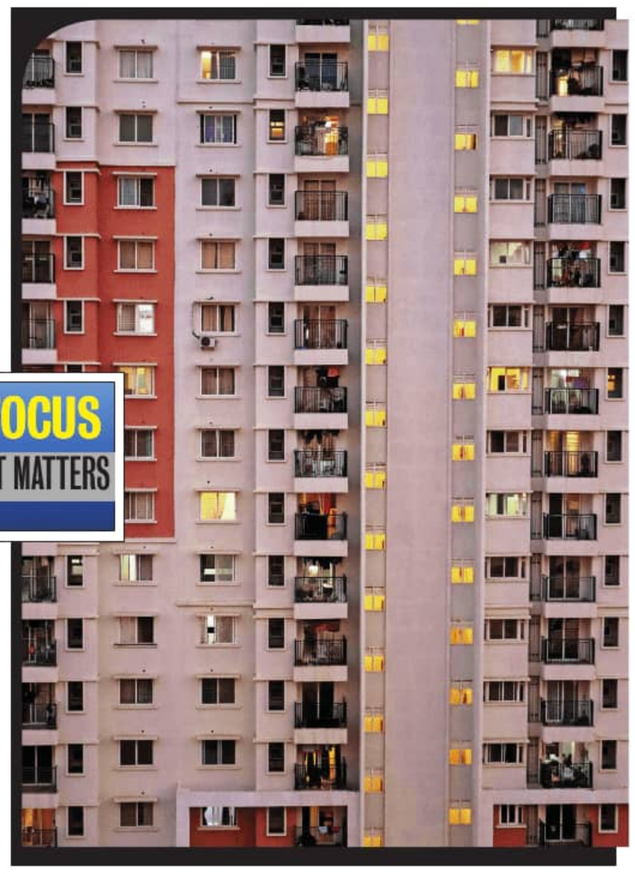
Idli & 'Naati Koli Saaru'

Siddaramaiah offered a light-hearted peek into their breakfast exchange, noting that while he had offered a vegetarian breakfast, Shivakumar's residence had gone all out with non-vegetarian dishes. Laughing about their opposite food habits, he said he had even requested Shivakumar to fetch some authentic country chicken from his village since the true native variety is hard to find in the city. During their earlier breakfast meet, Siddaramaiah happily dug into idli and naati koli saaru, while Shivakumar, currently observing a vow, skipped the chicken gravy altogether and stuck to idlis paired with simple vegetable sambar.

Apartment owners demand action to update K'taka apartment law

Federation representing 1.5 million residents' urges govt to table KAOMA in Belagavi, citing chaos from outdated laws and unresolved ownership disputes

The Bangalore Apartments Federation (BAF), representing over 1,400 apartment and villa Resident Welfare Associations (RWAs), issued a strong ultimatum to the State Government on Tuesday (December 2) to table and implement the Karnataka Apartment Ownership and Management Act (KAOMA) during the upcoming Belagavi Assembly Session. Representing the interests of over 350,000 households and approximately 1.5 million citizens, BAF argued that the State must immediately update the archaic Karnataka Apartment Ownership Act 1972 to end the administrative chaos and litigation caused by the lack of clear management and ownership rights.



At a press conference on Tuesday, BAF reiterated that establishing a comprehensive legal framework for apartment owners has been its core demand for years—a commitment repeatedly promised in the election manifestos of both the current and previous governments. BAF President Satish Mallya said the delay has created a legal vacuum that continues to affect lakhs of homeowners who lack clarity and protection. "With two and a half years elapsing since the Congress government took power, this is no longer a request but an urgent legislative demand," he said.

BAF intensifies push for KAOMA, urging updates to 1972 law for clear ownership, stronger associations and better dispute- resolution for homeowners

BAF's detailed proposal for KAOMA includes non-negotiable provisions for ensuring clear transfer of property rights and Undivided Share (UDS) from builders to owners, along with stronger, clearly defined rules for forming and registering owners' associations. It also seeks a faster and more structured mechanism for dispute resolution, and legal provisions to streamline amalgamation and redevelopment of aging apartment complexes are among other proposals by BAF.

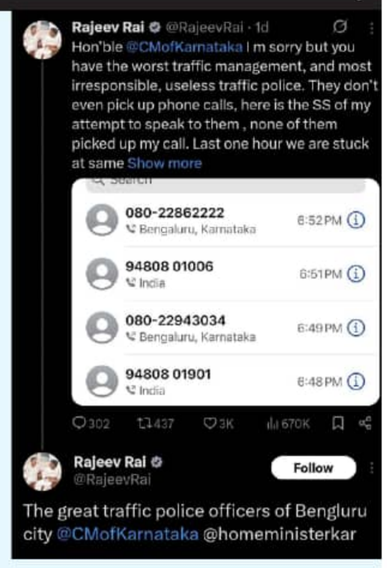
"It has been almost two years since the Deputy CM assured that the new law was being drafted and would be tabled soon. We demand that this modern legislation, which addresses critical issues like conveyance and redevelopment, be tabled immediately in the upcoming Belagavi session," said BAF General Secretary, K Arun Kumar.

— BMB

SOCIALTATTLE

That went viral

Rajeev Rai, the MP from Ghosi (Samajwadi Party), took to X to complain about being stuck in Bengaluru traffic during his visit to the city. He said he had been stranded on Rajkumar Samadhi Road for over an hour while trying to reach the airport and shared screenshots showing repeated, unanswered calls to traffic control numbers. He also alleged that no traffic personnel were present on the ground to ease the congestion. @CMofKarnataka was tagged in the post


Rajeev Rai @RajeevRai · 1d
Hon'ble @CMofKarnataka I m sorry but you have the worst traffic management, and most irresponsible, useless traffic police. They don't even pick up phone calls, here is the SS of my attempt to speak to them , none of them picked up my call. Last one hour we are stuck at same Show more
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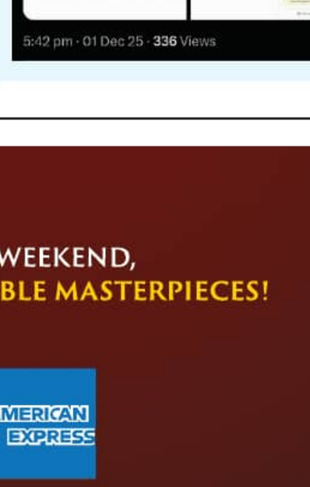
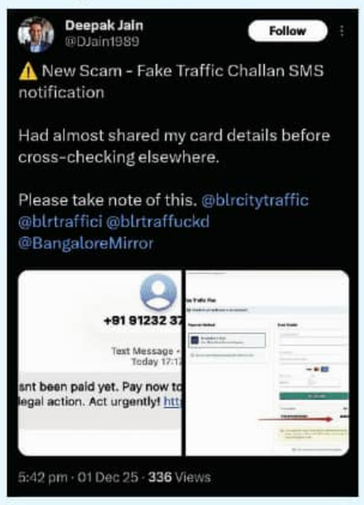

Harish Uthayakumar
@curiousharish
Follow
Went to Bannerghatta zoo today. Saw the crowd act stranger than the Langurs there.
-> People kept screaming at the tiger and it looked agitated. Same for most other animals.
->The buggy carts in the zoo kept honking. Felt like the chaos of Outer Ring Road inside the zoo.

A post by X user @curiousharish stated that during a visit to Bannerghatta Zoo, crowd behaviour was "stranger than the langurs." It was mentioned that people were seen screaming at the tiger, leaving the animal visibly agitated, and similar behaviour was observed around other enclosures as well. It was also noted that the zoo's buggy carts were honking continuously, creating what was described as a situation "as chaotic as Outer Ring Road" inside the zoo.

Bangalore Mirror tagged

X user @DJain1989 tagged Bangalore Mirror while raising an alert about a fake traffic-challan scam, saying he had nearly shared his card details after receiving a fraudulent SMS before cross-checking. In response to his post, the Bengaluru City Police clarified that no government agency, including the Traffic Police or Transport Department, sends payment links or fine notices through SMS, WhatsApp, or similar platforms. The police said such messages are cyber-fraud attempts and urged the public to report them immediately by calling 1930, while advising residents to stay cautious.


Deepak Jain
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Had almost shared my card details before cross-checking elsewhere.
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5:42 pm · 01 Dec 25 · 336 Views

INBRIEF

Three thieves yank ATM, abandon after failure

Three unidentified men allegedly stole an entire ATM by yanking it out of an unattended kiosk in Belagavi district, police said on Tuesday. The incident occurred on Monday night at a kiosk along National Highway 48 near Hosa Vantamuri village and was captured on CCTV cameras. According to police, the suspects arrived with a pushcart, lifted the ATM, loaded it onto the cart and escaped. Another CCTV clip showed two of the men later returning to the kiosk while pushing the empty cart.
A senior police officer said preliminary investigations revealed that the ATM, which contained over Rs 1 lakh, was abandoned just a few metres away after the suspects failed to break it open. The machine was recovered with the cash intact.
Police added that the kiosk had been shut and its sensors deactivated after a new ATM was installed 200 metres away about 15 days ago. With no guard or staircase, the old kiosk was an easy target. A case has been registered and further investigation is underway.

PTI

Former MLA Devaraj passes away at 67

Congress leader and former MLA R V Devaraj passed away in Mysuru at the age of 67 after suffering a heart attack on Monday night, party sources said on Tuesday.
Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah expressed deep sorrow over his death, recalling Devaraj's ideological commitment, long years of public service and dedication to the Congress.
He said Devaraj worked tirelessly for the people and should have been with the party for many more years said in a post on 'X'.
Offering condolences, Siddaramaiah prayed for peace to the departed soul and strength to his family and supporters.
Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar also mourned Devaraj's demise, describing it as a profound loss to Karnataka's political sphere.
He noted that Devaraj's contributions to the Chickpet constituency, both through politics and social service, were significant and lasting.
Shivakumar said the senior leader's passing had created a void that would be difficult to fill.

PTI

'Unscientific': Work goes to waste

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The residents pointed out complaints about obstructions and hazardous conditions have been submitted multiple times to the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA), but no change has happened on ground. "Recently medical waste was dumped on footpaths and against concrete walls, further impeding pedestrian movement and raising health concerns," added a resident of the area.

Rotti also pointed out several design and maintenance issues have compounded the problem. "The newly installed tiles for differently abled pedestrians are already damaged in places, while poorly installed bollards fail to prevent bike riders from using footpaths. Street lighting has been non-functional for months, and cables laid inside footpath ducts have suffered damage, requiring further excavation. Now a temporary arrangement has been made for streetlights via overhead cables, which is again unscientific. Why should public funds be wasted with such a project? If the project is carried out in a scientific and thoughtful manner then there won't be a problem of digging all over again," he said.

This apart, issues of bollards were highlighted. Residents said bollards had been installed, but it is not done properly so two-wheelers still get through on to the footpath. They complained that food trucks are parked on the footpath and occupy the entire space, also messing it up as vendors clean and wash plates at the same spot.

Recently, a letter was submitted by the forum to the GBA, in which they raised concerns regarding the management of street vendors and the condition of the Flower Market area. They have urged authorities to implement measures in line with the Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Act, 2014 and the Supreme Court's policy guidelines.

Residents have proposed that street vendors be accommodated on dedicated 6-inch platforms specifically designed for vending. They have requested that the Gandhi Bazaar Main Road Users Committee be given the responsibility of supervising and maintaining these platforms to ensure vendors follow all rules and regulations. Emphasising on pedestrian safety, they stressed that no vehicles, handcarts, push-carts, or any other obstructions should be allowed on the footpaths, and proper enforcement is essential.

Concerns were also raised about the Flower Market, where around 25 street vendors had begun operations before parts of the market were demolished in 2013 by the then MLA. Although the then Special Traffic Commissioner of Police MA Saleem had attempted to rehabilitate these vendors within the existing market, many refused citing safety issues, as parts of the old 1952-built structure appeared unstable.

"We request that a safe, designated space be allocated to these flower vendors within the market premises itself, in accordance with the Street Vendors Act. They believe this would not only secure the livelihoods of the vendors but also revive the vibrancy of the Flower Market/MLCP, creating a more organised and culturally rooted marketplace for Basavanagudi," added Rotti.

Schools make it a 'matter of ego'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

block education officer, suitable action will be taken against the school managements and headmasters under the Section 106(2)(b) of Karnataka Education Act 1983. The District Deputy Director (Administration) has to take measures to protect child rights," the circular read.

This comes as a relief as KSCPCR receives several complaints on the delay. "The KSCPCR received more than 100 complaints from parents and students last year on the delay in issuing transfer certificates. Many parents are compelled to come all the way to Bengaluru from various districts to lodge complaints with the KSCPCR and file petitions in the court against the delay in issuing transfer certificates by private schools. It would be helpful to the students if the private school managements and headmasters issue TCs to students who want to get admission to other schools," said Dr Thippeswamy KT.

Describing the circular as a much-needed direction as issuing TC or any such documents is still a matter of ego to many heads of the institutions; women and juvenile rights advocate Anjali Ramanna said the circular should have carried a stipulated timeline for this kind of issuance. "The formats shall also be

made uniform to all the education institutions. Above all, before issuing TC, a few mandatory investigations shall be done by the authority about the continuity of education of a child," she said.

Nagasimha G Rao, a child rights activist, said the timely issuance of a TC or school leaving certificate is of utmost importance because it forms an integral part of a child's fundamental right to continuous and uninterrupted education. "Section 5 of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 (RTE Act) explicitly states that under no circumstances should the issuance of a TC be delayed or withheld, no fees can be demanded for it, and even if the TC is delayed or not produced, the new school is legally bound to admit the child immediately. Thus, any delay or refusal to issue a TC constitutes a clear violation of law," he said.

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WE, SEEMAKURTHI SRINIVAS and SEEMAKURTHI TRIVENI DURGA residing at 460/10, Jasmine Apartment, Flat No. G3, 4th Cross, 7th Main, G B Palya, Bommanahalli, Bengaluru- 560048 hereby state that in my daughter SEEMAKURTHI ADITHRI school record we want to change her and our names as follows. 1) Father name: SEEMAKURTHI SRINIVAS instead of SRINIVAS SEEMAKURTHI 2) Mother name: SEEMAKURTHI TRIVENI DURGA instead of TRIVENI DURGA SEEMAKURTHI 3) Student Name: SEEMAKURTHI ADITHRI instead of ADITHRI SEEMAKURTHI vide affidavit dated 02-12-25 before Notary K.V. Mani, Bangalore

I Raju T S/O, Ilaiah Thallapally R/o G01, Nexus Neladri, 14th Cross, Neladri Nagar, Bangalore have changed my name to Raju Thallapally For Reliance Life Insurance Policy.

I, Innasappa S/o Adikappa R/o Harobele Uyyamballi Kanakapura Ramanagar 562117 have changed my name to A Innasappa.

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I, REHANA BEGUM wife of MOHAMMED IQBAL residing at No. 2L, No 10th Street, Shivajinagar, Bangalore-51 hereby state that in some records my husband name is wrongly recorded as MOHAMMED GHOUSE MOHAMMED IQBAL instead of MOHAMMED IQBAL. I further declare that my husband's correct name is MOHAMMED IQBAL Vide affidavit dated 2-12-25 before Notary Leela, Bangalore

I, AKSHAY SHETTAR S/O PRAKASH SHETTAR R/O 309, ABHI STARLIGHT, L G EXTENSION LYT, BALAGERE RD, GUNJUR, BENGALURU, KARNATAKA 560087, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM AKSHAY PRAKASH SHETTAR TO AKSHAY SHETTAR FOR ALL FUTURE PURPOSES.

I, NISHATH BI (Old Name) W/o Mohammad Muzzamil resident at No. 14/1. 2nd Main Road, 2nd Cross, Goripalya, JJR Nagar, Bengaluru-560018 have changed my name to NISHATH BANU (New Name) vide affidavit dated: 23/10/2025 Before Notary Deepa.M Bangalore.

I, Naveen M D, S/o Devaraju M, #131, 24TH main pipeline road jc nagar kurubarahalli Bengaluru 560086, Changed my Name as Navveen M D

I, Aishwarya Umesh Naik W/o Chandrashekhar Mohan Naik, R/o #005 Urban Orchids,1st Flr 35th A Main Road Rose Garden J P Nagar 6th Phase B'luru-560078 have changed my name to Aishwarya Chandrashekhar Naik.Sworn Notary K V Mani date 20/Nov/2025

I, AYASHA RAFI MOHAMED RAFIUDDIN, R/a.No.No.19, Millers Road, Benson Town. Bangalore-560046. I, have Changed my name to AYASHA RAFI, Vide affidavit, dated 02/12/2025 Sworn before Notary Meer Hassan Bangalore

I Hanmanth S/o Thimmanna Pawar R/o No.C 1304,13th Floor, Sumadhura Sushantham Apartment, 8th Main Road, Next to Government School, Thindlu, Vidyaranyapura, Bangalore 560097 have changed my name to H T Pawar

I, AMBIKA P, W/o Late. E Paramesh, residing at No.1118/27, 11th Cross, A Main, Prakash nagar, Sriramapuram, Bangalore-560021, Have changed my name to P AMBIKA, vide affidavit dt: 27 Nov 2025 before notary S I BALAGURU, B'lore.

I, Disha Dave D/o, Sunil R Davey R/o No 19, Anugraha Next to Vijaya Vittala Residency Kodigehalli,Vidyaranyapura, Bengaluru 560097 have changed my name to Disha S Davey for all purposes.

I, Sadhavathy Ramesh w/o Ramesh Mariswamappa, R/o #13 7th Cross LBF Road, Doddamavalli B'luru-560004 have changed my name to Sadhavathi Ramesh for all Purposes.

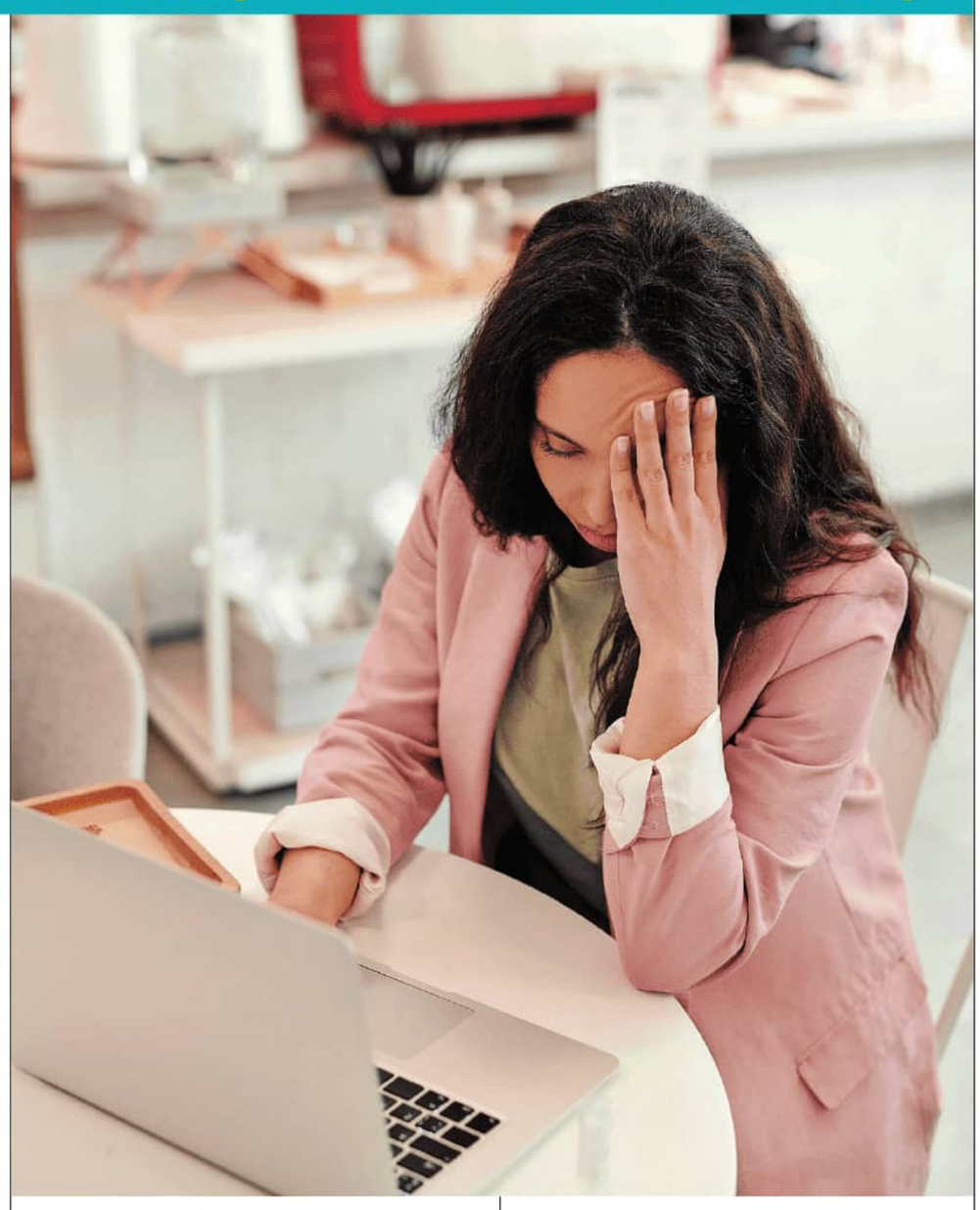
I, Harsh Rameshchandra Panchal S/o Rameshchandra P Panchal R/o 5/10 1st Floor,2nd Cross Nehrunagar Sheshadripuram B'lore-560020 have changed my name to Harsh Panchal.

I, Salman Beig S/o Mohammed Aslam Baig R/o A.S. Manzil Near Kanika School Melekote Tumakuru 572102 Have changed my name to Salman Baig for all Purposes.

I, IMRAN JATU residing at 2nd Floor No.17, P No 3rd Street, Armstrong Road, Bharathi Nagar, Bengaluru-560001. I have changed my name to MOHAMMED IMRAN. Vide affidavit dated 02/12/2025 sworn before notary. S N MADHU Bengaluru.

WHY HEAD HURTS

If the brain can't feel pain, why do headaches hurt so intensely?



Whether the pain is sharp and stabbing or dull and throbbing, a headache can turn even the best day upside down. What often surprises people is that the brain itself cannot feel pain. This leads to an interesting question: if the brain has no pain sensors, then why does your head hurt so badly during a headache? What is really happening inside your skull when it feels tight, heavy, or as if it might explode?

I am a child neurologist, a doctor who specialises in conditions affecting the brain and nervous system in children. Many young patients I see come to me because they are dealing with frequent or severe headaches. While scientists are still discovering more about how and why headaches develop, we now understand several important processes that play key roles in producing head pain.

What exactly is a headache?

To understand headaches, it helps to know what you can and cannot feel pain. The brain has no pain receptors, meaning it cannot sense injury or irritation directly. However, many structures around the brain can. Blood vessels that supply the brain, tissues that surround and cushion it, and nerves that travel across the scalp all contain pain-sensitive receptors.

Headaches rarely act alone. The brain often sends additional signals to the rest of the body, producing symptoms like tiredness, light sensitivity, noise sensitivity, nausea, watery eyes, runny nose, or difficulty concentrating. It is not fully understood why these symptoms accompany head pain, but one theory suggests that they evolved to protect the body. For example, sensitivity to light or noise might push you to rest in a quiet, dark place, reducing activity and allowing the irritated nerves to c alm down.

What causes headaches?

Headaches often arise when the body experiences some form of stress. Stress can be physical, emotional, environmental, or a combination of all three. Many of the nerves and blood vessels around the brain and neck are sensitive to small changes, and stress can trigger shifts that eventually lead to pain.

Common causes include viral or bacterial infections, allergies, changes in hormones during puberty, lack of sleep, dehydration, skipping meals, or consuming too much caffeine. Emotional stress is another powerful trigger. Feeling anxious, overwhelmed, or sad can change the chemicals in the brain and increase muscle tension, which in turn contributes to headaches. Even shifts in the weather can affect some people. Changes in air pressure may increase sinus pressure, causing discomfort behind the forehead, cheeks, or eyes.

Among children, one of the most widely known and severe types of headaches is migraine. Migraines often cause pulsing or pounding pain and usually come with additional symptoms such as nausea, vomiting, or sensitivity to light and sound. About one in eleven children experience migraines, and many find that everyday activities—like reading, playing, or physical movement—can make the pain worse. Migraines occur when the nervous system becomes unusually sensitive to triggers that would not normally cause pain. During a migraine, pain pathways in the brain become overactive, and blood vessels may expand or contract in abnormal patterns. Genetics play a major role: children who get migraines often have parents or relatives who experience them as well. Environmental factors, such as bright sunlight, strong smells, loud noises, and irregular meal or sleep patterns, can also set off an attack.

Treating and preventing headaches

Understanding the type of headache a person has is essential for choosing the right treatment. Migraines, which can be intense and disabling, often lead to doctor visits, but many headaches—including those in children—improve with simple lifestyle changes. One of the most effective strategies is staying hydrated, as water supports steady blood flow and prevents irritation in pain-sensitive tissues. Eating regular meals and keeping blood sugar stable also help reduce the likelihood of headaches. Good-quality, consistent sleep allows the nervous system to reset, while regular physical activity boosts circulation and lowers stress, making headaches less frequent.

Over-the-counter medications such as ibuprofen or acetaminophen can treat mild to moderate pain. For people with frequent or severe migraines, doctors may prescribe treatments that stop attacks or prevent them. These may include triptans, anti-nausea medicines, or daily preventive drugs.

Physical therapy can ease tight neck and shoulder muscles that often contribute to head pain. Behavioral approaches, including cognitive-behavioral techniques and relaxation training, help children manage stress, reducing stress-related headaches. Mindfulness, breathing exercises, and biofeedback can also calm the nervous system.

New electronic devices that stimulate specific nerves now offer alternatives for those who do not respond well to medication. Sudden, severe, or changing headaches require medical attention to rule out other issues and ensure proper care.

Katherine Cobb-Pitstick, University of Pittsburgh, The Conversation

MIRRORLIGHTS

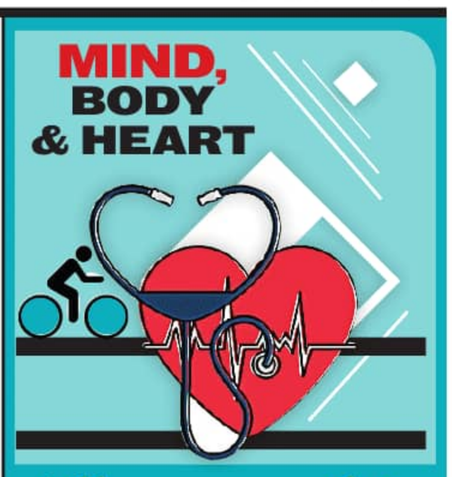
Global Study finds omega-3 intake far below recommended levels worldwide

A new study has found that more than three-fourths of the world's population is not getting the recommended intake of Omega-3 fatty acids, revealing a major global public health concern. Omega-3s, which support brain, heart, and overall metabolic health, are primarily obtained from fatty fish such as salmon, as well as plant-based sources like flaxseeds and chia seeds. Despite their importance, intake remains far below recommended levels for most people across age groups and regions.

Abbie Cawood, science director at Holland & Barrett and visiting research fellow at the University of Southampton in the UK, emphasised the significance of long-chain polyunsaturated fatty acids such as eicosapentaenoic acid (EPA) and docosahexaenoic acid (DHA). "The health benefits of long-chain polyunsaturated fatty acids, specifically EPA and DHA, are too important to ignore," Cawood said. She added that supplementation is often necessary to meet recommended levels, especially during pregnancy and among individuals who consume little or no fish.

Researchers found that dietary recommendations varied widely across countries, creating confusion and underscoring the need for consistent, evidence-based global guidance. However, the data showed that most countries fail to meet these targets. The authors noted an urgent need for accessible, sustainable, and innovative sources of EPA and DHA, such as bio-enriched foods and supplements, to help populations reach optimal Omega-3 levels. They also highlighted a significant gap between scientific evidence, public health recommendations, and actual consumption patterns. Unlike earlier guidance focused mainly on pregnancy, early development, or ageing, this review covers all life stages, offering clearer and more comprehensive direction for the general population.

—PTI



All you need to know about...

Foods for gout

Cherries
Cherries are rich in anthocyanins, which reduce inflammation and help lower uric acid. Fresh, frozen, or dried varieties offer benefits, though packaged ones may contain added sugar. Tart cherry juice has also been linked to fewer gout flare-ups.

Citrus fruits
Oranges, lemons, and grapefruits provide vitamin C, which supports the kidneys in flushing out uric acid. Lemons have an alkalising effect, helping balance the body's pH.

Celery
Celery contains luteolin and 3-n-butylphthalide, compounds shown to reduce uric acid. Its high-water content supports hydration and kidney function. Celery juice, is easy to include in daily meals.

Apples
Apples contain malic acid, which helps neutralise uric acid. Their fiber and vitamin C improve digestion and support toxin removal.

Carrots
Carrots help maintain balanced pH levels and reduce inflammation. Their antioxidants and soluble fiber support detoxification and gut health.

Green tea
Green tea's catechins improve kidney function and reduce inflammation. Regular intake may decrease flare-ups and provide hydration without sugar.

Cucumbers
Cucumbers are hydrating and low in purines, helping flush excess uric acid. They also aid in weight management.

Berries
Berries provide antioxidants and vitamin C that lower uric acid and reduce inflammation. Their fiber helps remove toxins.

Leafy greens
Spinach, kale, and lettuce are alkalising, fiber-rich foods that support detoxification and kidney health when consumed regularly.

—Written by Femina Wellness Expert

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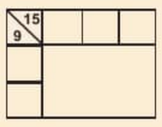
facebook.com/theBangaloremirror
@BangaloreMirror

SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

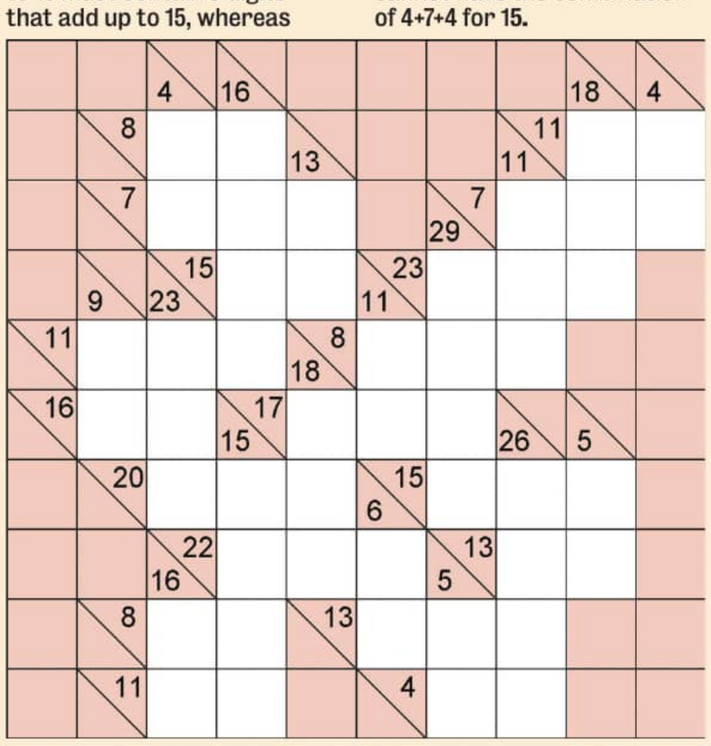
A boy drove from A to B at 12km/h and returned at 16km/h. If both journeys lasted for 3.5hrs, find the distance between A and B.

Kakuro

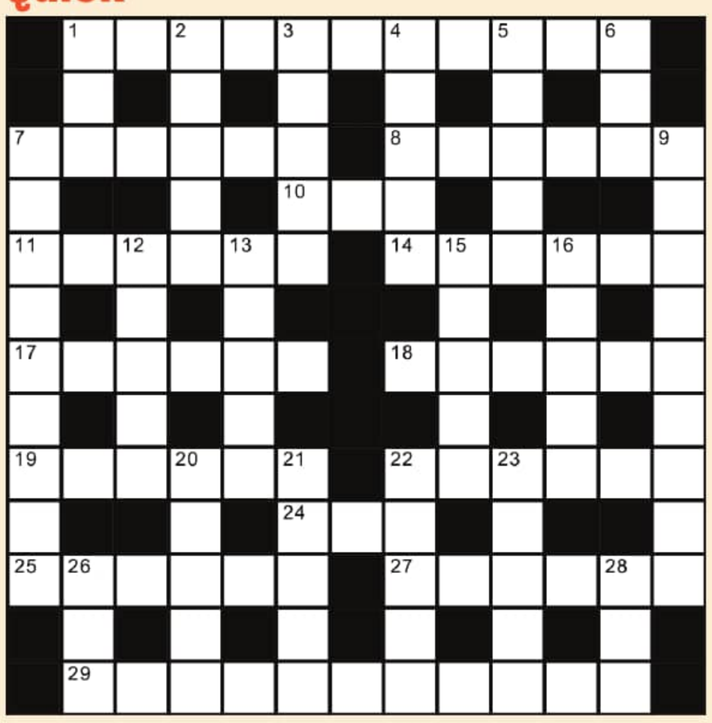
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Seller of fruit and vegetables (11)
7 Make a clean ___ of: confess all? (6)
8 Practice (6)
10 Part of a play (3)
11 Consume or ingest (4,2)
14 Invest in holy order (6)
17 Ecstatic (6)
18 Capital of Turkey (6)
19 Useless or vain (6)
22 Large island in the Pacific (6)
24 BJP and their allies? (3)
25 Sycophant (3-3)
27 Organise or regulate (6)
29 Disheartening (11)

DOWN

1 Animal sanctuary in Gujarat (3)
2 Avoid (5)
3 Paying Guest was her first film (5)
4 Right hand page of an open book (5)
5 Reconnoitred (5)
6 Ex-P.M. Narsimha ___ (3)
7 One Puccini heroine (9)
9 Port city in Karnataka (9)
12 A German, in a derogatory way? (5)
13 Absolutely perfect! (5)
15 John, Paul, George and _____ (5)
16 Now and ___ : occasionally or frequently? (5)
20 Poetic feet of one kind (5)
21 Boredom (5)
22 Walt Disney's lovable cartoon deer (5)
23 India's cricket trophy (5)
26 ____ of the road : there is nowhere to go now? (3)
28 Wisecrack (3)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: L EQUALS I

LP PUOC LJ ZH KHOC HMTN UPZCF XCUZV, L UO LM MH VQFFN PHF LZ.

Linemaro

Can I tie your shoes? I can't have you falling for someone else

Mindchow

When planning for a year, plant corn. When planning for a decade, plant trees. When planning for life, train and educate people

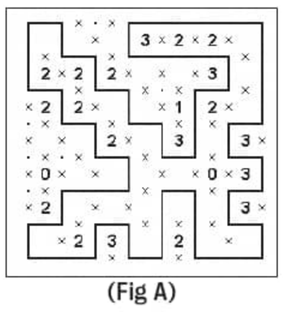
Joke of the day

If one synchronised swimmer drowns, do the rest drown too?

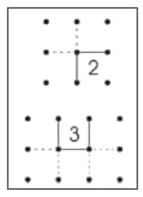
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)

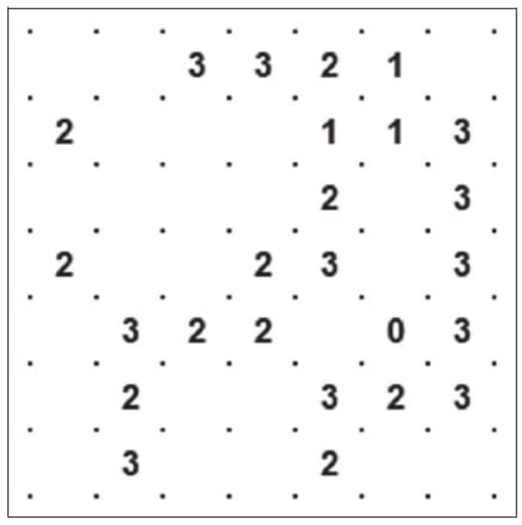


(Fig B) Not Allowed

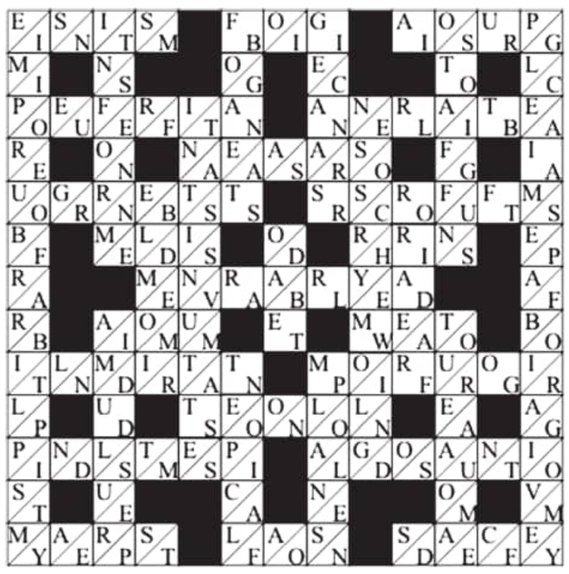
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



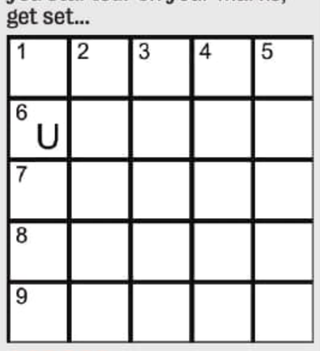
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

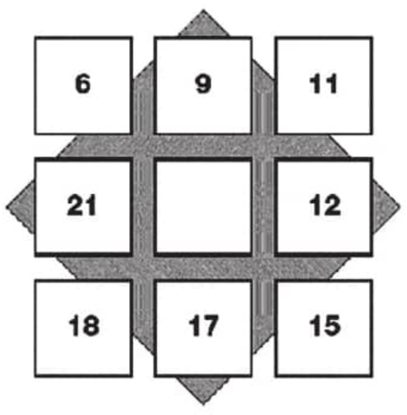
1 Pa pop; 6 Ural I; 7 An nan; 8 CCI it; 9 H cock

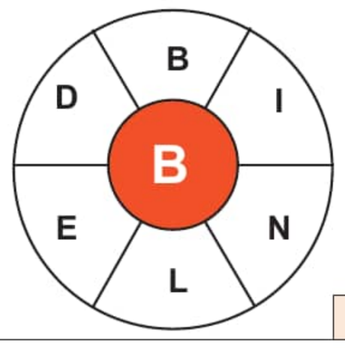
DOWN

1 Cup in; 2 Roach; 3 To Pin; 4 In Cap; 5 A calk

Mensapuzzle

Which number goes in the centre?





Bull's eye

How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

08 Average; **09** Good; **11** Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

		7		2		1		
	6		4		8		3	
		3	1		6	7		
	9		5		4		2	
1								9
	8		3		9		1	
		4	6		1	2		
	5		2		7		9	
		9		4		3		

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy

= 10

2 7 7 8

Medium

= 18

8 7 6 4

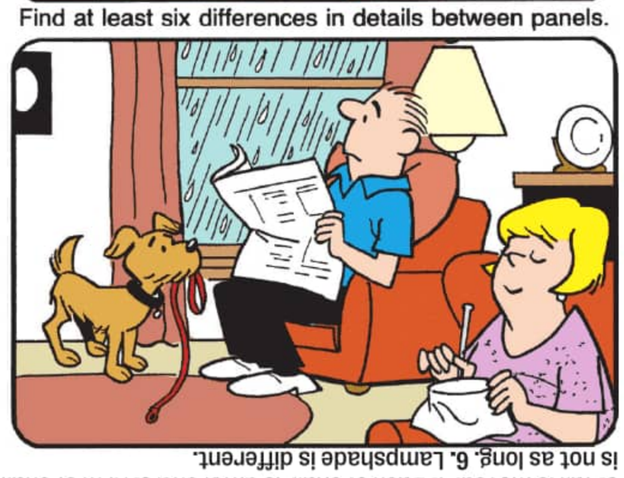
Hard

= 4

2 3 6 7

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



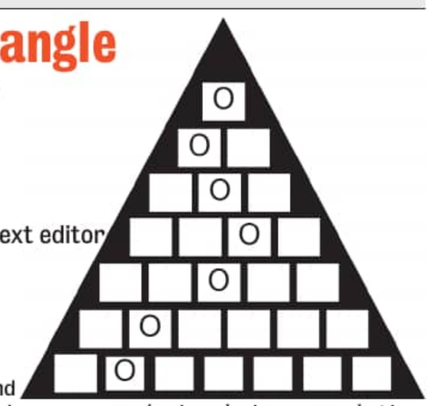
Differences: 1. Nose is smaller. 2. Leash is different. 3. Tail is moved. 4. Back of chair is different. 5. Arm of chair is not as long. 6. Lampshade is different.

Riddler

Find the synonymous word for each word in the following pair. For each pair, the words you find should rhyme with each other, the first word being an adjective and the second a noun. Some of these are easy, others are more challenging. Good luck! sneaky insect humorous rabbit happy boy muscular tune close fright

Alpha triangle

1 Atomic number 8
2 Not off
3 Cargo weight
4 British school
5 Right a wrong
6 Give
7 Windows' basic text editor



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

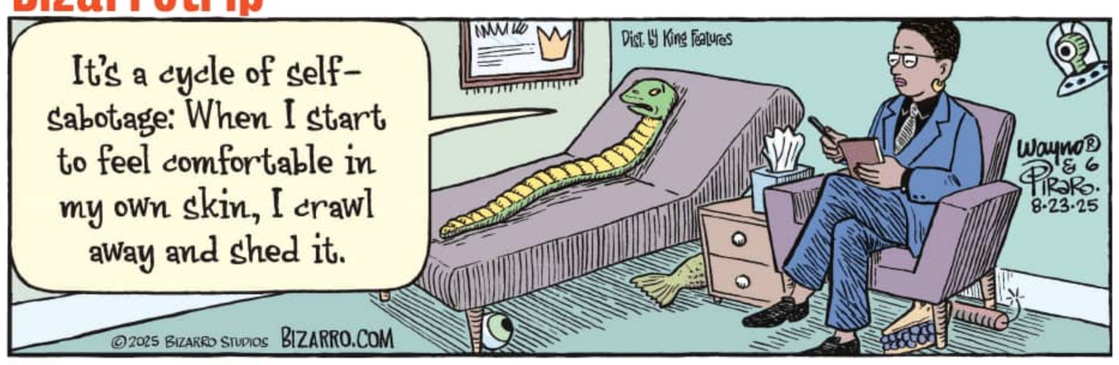
DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Popeye

SWEE'PEA IS RIGHT... YOU CAN'T DO IT!
BUT--
EACH OF THE CLONES IS AS REAL AS THE REAL SWEE'PEA !
IF YOU ALLOW THE SPACE CREATURES TO EVAPORATE THEM, IT WILL BE MURDER !
?
YOU SHAN'T TOUCH 'EM!
©2025 King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.
popeye.com
3-4
SEGAR

Bizarrotrip

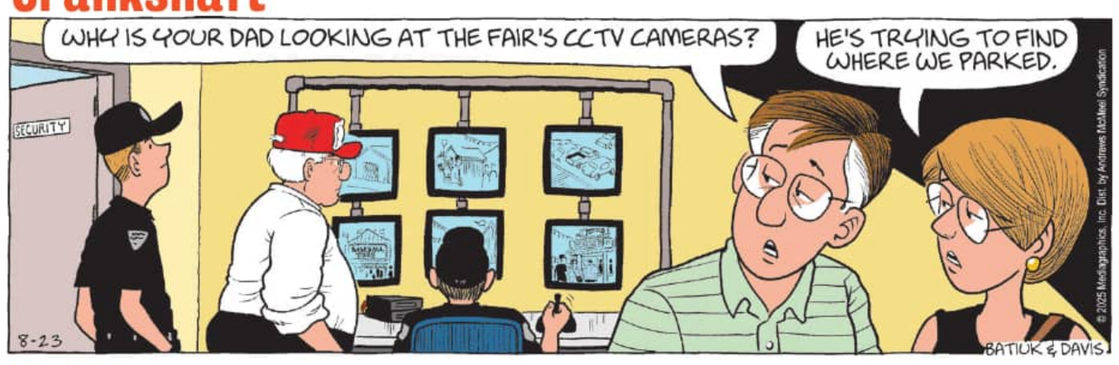

It's a cycle of self-sabotage: When I start to feel comfortable in my own skin, I crawl away and shed it.
Dist. by King Features
Wayno & Piraro 8.23.25
©2025 Bizarro Studios BIZARRO.COM

Diamond Lil

Hart of the city

DANA, HOW MANY LIGHTS DO WE NEED FOR THE TOWER SCENE?
JUST TWO! ONE FOR HEART, ONE FOR TOBY.
KARA HAS MY SCRIPT AND WON'T GIVE IT BACK!!
YOU DON'T NEED IT. YOU'VE GOT THE LINES DOWN. I BELIEVE IN YOU.
GOOD WORK, EVERYONE! DRESS REHEARSAL WENT GREAT! WE'VE GOT THIS!!
WE SHOULD HAVE A CAMPER DIRECT EVERY YEAR. IT'S FREE LABOR.
HEART OF THE CITY © 2025 ANDREWS MCMEEL
@OCOMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY
8/23

Crankshaft


WHY IS YOUR DAD LOOKING AT THE FAIR'S CCTV CAMERAS?
HE'S TRYING TO FIND WHERE WE PARKED.
SECURITY
8-23
© 2025 Mediagraphics, Inc. Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication
BATIUK & DAVIS

Mutts

WRITTEN IN THE STARS

Dr SUNDEEP KOCHAR

If it's your birthday today

Your ruling planet encourages exploration, and this Friday urges you to look beyond the familiar horizon. Perhaps a book, a documentary, or a conversation sparks a completely new direction for your long-term vision. Resist the urge to commit fully just yet; instead, gather information like a skilled traveller. Your need for honesty shines brightly, so speak your mind gently.

Aries Mar 21–Apr 20

Your mantra today is, "I am doing great and content." Self-belief fuels your rise. Career seekers receive good news. Keep pushing forward but pause, breathe, and celebrate your personal progress.

Taurus Apr 21–May 20

Fresh beginnings surround you today, stay alert. Positive changes unfold, especially career recognition from seniors. Singles may feel drawn to someone new. Old heartbreaks finally fade.

Gemini May 21–Jun 21

Don't give up today. The yearend rush demands your focus, but success follows your effort. Busy moments bring rewards. Watch for white and red, they'll symbolise luck throughout your day.

Cancer Jun 22–July 23

Your creativity brings success today. Use ideas wisely at work. Personal troubles begin healing—some resolve completely, others bring acceptance. This is a day of growth, reflection, and peaceful emotional progress.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23

Leave the past behind today. Nostalgia may resurface, but don't dwell. Old memories should inspire lessons, not sadness. Focus on progress, using past experiences as stepping stones toward renewed growth.

Virgo Aug 24–Sep 23

Trust yourself more today. Share your ideas, they'll succeed beautifully. Married Virgos may progress deeper in love, receiving wonderful news. Confidence in your instincts brings opportunities.

Libra Sep 24–Oct 22

Momentum returns. Monotony ends as tasks accelerate. Productivity surges, lifting your spirit. Clarity arrives in love, someone's feelings become evident, bringing encouragement and positivity into your day's rhythm.

Scorpio Oct 23–Nov 22

It's okay to rest today. Every day needn't be intense. Allow yourself quiet time to recharge, reflect, and prepare. This brief pause restores balance, strength, and focus for the days ahead.

Sagittarius Nov 23–Dec 22

Healing surrounds you today. Whatever's been troubling you begins resolving naturally. Trust yourself and divine timing. The universe works in your favour, relax, surrender control, and allow everything to unfold beautifully.

Capricorn Dec 23–Jan 20

Avoid isolation today. Doing everything alone exhausts you. Vulnerability isn't weakness, seek support, share thoughts, and talk things through. Asking for help brings clarity, peace, and renewed strength.

Aquarius Jan 21–Feb 19

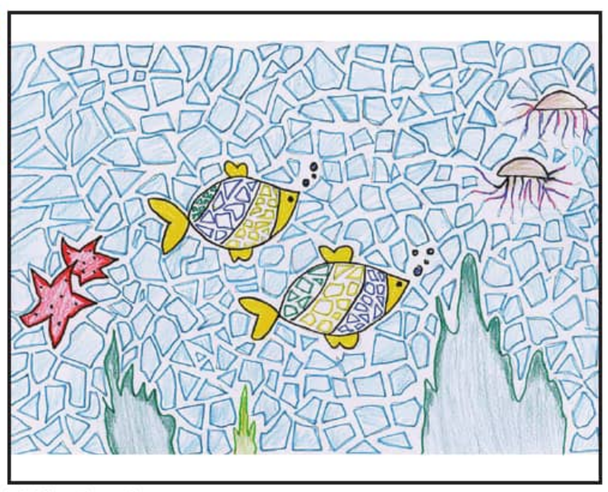
Reflect deeply today. As the year closes, plan your next chapter. Note what you'll change, pursue, or release. Building this roadmap now ensures the new year welcomes success and opportunity.

Pisces Feb 20–Mar 20

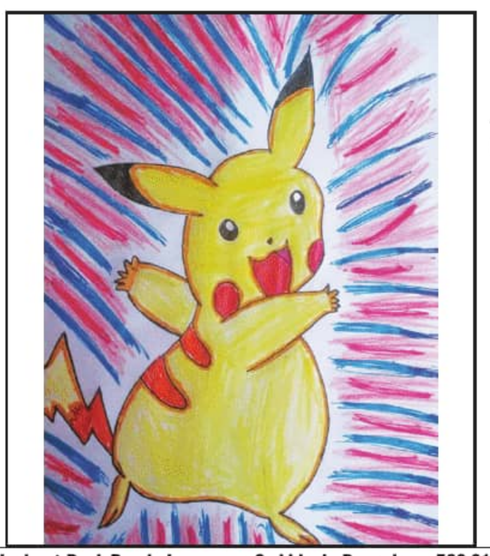
After every fall comes a rise, and yours begins today. Relationship breakthroughs emerge, and work issues find solutions. You're in full problem-solving mode, turning challenges into progress and strength effortlessly.

www.sundeepkochar.com

KIDZONE



Nishita, Bengaluru



Anas, Bengaluru

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M

x/12 + x/16 = 3.5
16x+12x=16*12*3.5
28x=672
x=672/28
x=24 km

BULL'S EYE

bend, bible, bide, bile, bind, bindle, bled, blend, blind, nibble, NIBBLED

FAST FIVE

C	H	O	C	K
I	C	T	I	C
N	A	N	N	A
U	R	I	A	L
P	O	P	P	A

QUOTE UNCODE

If fame is to come only after death, I am in no hurry for it.

STRIKE OUT

I	S	I	S		B	O	G		I	S	U	P		
M	N		O		E		T		L					
P	U	F	F	I	N		A	E	R	A	T	E		
R	O	N	E	A	R	S		F		A				
O	G	R	E	S	S		S	C	O	F	F	S		
B		M	L	I		O		H	R	S		E		
A		E	N	A	B	L	E	D				F		
	B	A	M	U		E		W	E	T		O		
I	N	D	I	A	N		M	I	R	R	O	R		
L		D		T	E	N	O	N		A		G		
I	N	S	T	E	P		A	G	O	U	T	I		
T		U		A		N		M				V		
Y	A	P	S		L	A	S		D	A	C	E		

GUICK

D		I	S	P	I	R	I	T	I	N	G			
N		B		U		B		J		A				
Y	E	S	M	A	N		M	A	N	A	G	E		
L		A		N	D	A		A				R		
F	U	T	I	L	E		B	O	R	N	E	O		
R		U		A			G		I		L			
E	L	A	T	E	D		A	N	K	A	R	A		
T		R		D			I		O	R	D	A	I	N
U		D		A	C	T		E		A				
B	R	E	A	S	T		C	U	S	T	O	M		
I		V		U		E		A						
G	R	E	E	N	G	R	O	C	E	R				

MENSA PUZZLE

23. Starting in the top left corner and moving clockwise in a spiral, add 3 to get the next value, then 2, then 1, etc.

RIDDLER

sneaky insect = sly fly, humorous rabbit = funny bunny, happy boy = glad lad, muscular tune = strong song, close flight= near fear

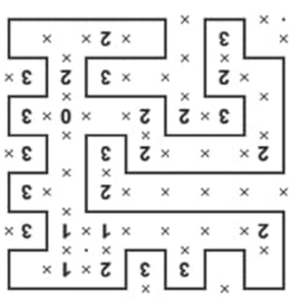
SUDOKU

8	4	7	9	2	3	1	6	5
5	6	1	4	7	8	9	3	2
9	2	3	1	5	6	7	8	4
7	9	6	5	1	4	8	2	3
1	3	5	7	8	2	6	4	9
4	8	2	3	6	9	5	1	7
3	7	4	6	9	1	2	5	8
6	5	8	2	3	7	4	9	1
2	1	9	8	4	5	3	7	6

ALPHA TRIANGLE

0, On, Ton, Eton, Atone, Donate, Notepad.

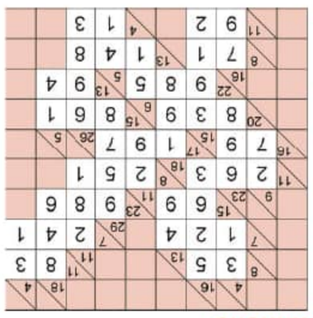
LOOP



GO FIGURE

Easy
2 + 7 + 8−7 = 10
Medium
4−8 + 7 x 6 = 18
Hard
2 + 6−7 + 3 = 4

KAKURO



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 # Wedding date buzz— Smriti Mandhana's brother Shravan Mandhana breaks silence on families locking in December 7 as new wedding date with Palaash Muchhal

SANDALWOOD SHOTS

Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Vijay unveils'Super Hit'

In Sandalwood, it is common to label a film a "super hit" after it performs exceptionally well at the box office. Drawing inspiration from this practice and the strength of his script, director Vijay Anand has chosen Super Hit as the title of his upcoming film. The title also carries a fitting tagline — Running Successfully.

Vijay Anand, known for directing Olu Muniswamy and Krishna Talkies, is now gearing up for his third directorial venture. "Olu Muniswamy was actor-director Kashinath's last film, and he played a very unique character in it. Krishna Talkies, led by Ajay Rao, was my second film, where I presented Ajay in a completely different shade from his usual lover-boy roles," Vijay Anand shared.

The teaser of Super Hit was launched on Monday at Kalavidara Sangha.

Clarifying the intention behind the title, the director stressed that it was not chosen as a marketing gimmick.

Roopa revives cinema

Roopa Iyer, actor, writer, director and producer is gearing up for the nationwide release of her Hindi film Azad Bharath. Known for acclaimed Kannada films such as Mukhaputa and Chandra, Roopa returns to direction after more than a decade, making this project a significant comeback. Along with directing, she also plays the role of Neera Arya in the film, which is set to hit theatres across India on January 2.

"Earlier, the film was titled Neera Arya, but we changed it to Azad Bharath. This movie is dedicated to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and focuses on the all-women combat unit he established," Roopa explained. Bollywood actor Shreyas Talpade portrays Netaji, while Kannada actress Hita Chandrasekhar appears as Durga. The cast also includes Suresh Oberoi, Vijayanath Biradar, Suchendra Prasad, and Zee channel head Subhash Chandra. The film's music has been composed by Roopa's husband, Gautam Srivatsa. JThe film features seven songs, including one rendered by Maharashtra Chief Minister's wife, Amruta Fadnavis.

Shahid's truth beyond stardom

Bollywood star Shahid Kapoor has opened up about the emotional and professional experiences that shaped his journey, revealing how he maintains a clear boundary between his work and family life. In a conversation on the Punjab First Voice podcast, the actor said that even after 22 years in the industry, he makes a conscious effort to leave the chaos of showbiz at the door.

"Once I'm back home, I take on the role of a father, husband and son. You shouldn't bring your professional life or stardom into your personal space," he said. Shahid added that his children keep him grounded, no matter how tiring the day has been. "Whenever I am with my children, I cherish that time. Even if I'm exhausted, they'll understand. Tomorrow when they grow up, they'll know." He credited his wife, Mira Rajput Kapoor, for ensuring that home remains a drama-free zone. "Mira is very supportive. She understands me and has made a rule that we don't discuss work at home. —ETimes

AGE IS NOT JUST A NUMBER

Dia Mirza challenges Bollywood's age bias

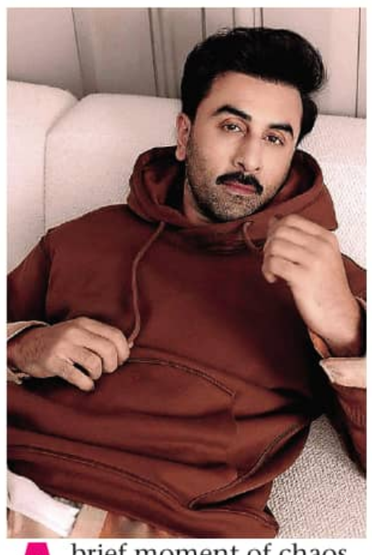
Dia Mirza has once again used her platform to confront a persistent and uncomfortable truth in the film industry: women often fade from the screen as they age, even as men continue to be celebrated and cast in romantic roles well into their 60s and 70s. Known for her advocacy on environmental issues and her progressive choices—such as opting for a female priest at her wedding—Mirza is now speaking out against the ageism that shapes casting decisions in Bollywood.

At the recent We The Women 2025 event, curated by journalist Barkha Dutt, the Sanju actor reflected on how little the industry has evolved. She pointed out that, even today, actresses are frequently paired with male co-stars significantly older than them. "I find it interesting that I'm cast opposite actors in their late 50s, 60s, and even 70s, and we're meant to be seen as romantic equals on screen," she reportedly said. To expose the stark imbalance, she reversed the scenario: it is almost impossible, she noted, to imagine a 60- or 70-year-old woman being cast opposite a man in his 40s as a romantic lead. The norm continues to favour aging male stars while sidelining women as they grow older.

Mirza stressed that her concern is not with men aging but with how women are denied the chance to age visibly and meaningfully on screen. On-screen desirability, she argued, is still linked to youth when it comes to women, making older female characters rare, underwritten, or completely absent.

Sharing her reflections later on social media, Mirza described women over 40 as being in their "power years," fully aware of who they are and what they bring to the table. wrote. —ETimes

Ranbir defuses paparazzi tension



A brief moment of chaos unfolded outside filmmaker Sanjay Leela Bhansali's Mumbai office on Monday when Ranbir Kapoor arrived for a scheduled work meeting. Paparazzi stationed outside claimed they had been invited to cover the actor's arrival, but a sudden pushback from his security personnel left them visibly upset. The incident came shortly after Kareena Kapoor publicly stated that the Kapoor family does not tip off photographers for planned appearances, adding an extra layer of tension to the exchange.

According to a Hindustan Times report, as Ranbir's car reached the entrance, his security team repeatedly instructed photographers to move further back so the gate could be closed safely. The persistence of these instructions angered the paparazzi, who felt they were being snubbed despite allegedly receiving messages inviting them to capture the moment. A video circulating online shows several photographers confronting the security team, saying, "Are bhai bulaya hai… kya kar rahe ho. Message hum sabke paas," expressing frustration at what they perceived as disrespect after being called to the spot.

The situation eased when Ranbir Kapoor stepped out of the car and briefly posed for the cameras, offering a cordial gesture before heading inside.

The actor continued discussions for Love and War, his upcoming Bhansali film with Alia Bhatt and Vicky Kaushal, while also preparing for Nitesh Tiwari's Ramayana as Lord Rama. **ETimes**

Sienna flaunts baby bump

Sienna Miller lit up the red carpet at the 2025 Fashion Awards, held on December 1 at London's Royal Albert Hall, as she proudly showcased her baby bump. The 43-year-old actor arrived in a stunning white crystalline gown paired with ruffled pink heels and delicate dangling earrings, radiating confidence and joy as she posed for photographers. Her appearance quickly sparked conversations online, with fans celebrating her glowing embrace of motherhood.

Miller is currently expecting her second child with her partner, actor and model Oli Green. The couple welcomed their first daughter in 2023, and Miller is also mother to a 13-year-old daughter from her previous relationship with actor Tom Sturridge. Over the years, the American Sniper actor has spoken candidly about the pressures women face around fertility in their 40s. Speaking to Elle UK in a 2022 interview, she described the emotional weight of questions about having more children, calling it "a really loud noise."

Miller revealed that she chose to freeze her eggs, a decision that significantly eased her anxiety. "That kind of existential threat has dissipated," she said.